

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-9, 11-18, 24, 28 and 30 will be pending in the case. Claims 10, 19-23, 25-27, 29 and 31 will have been cancelled. Claims 1, 11, 12, 14, 24, 28 and 30 are currently amended. The amendments are supported by the specification and claims as originally filed.

Reconsideration of the present case in view of the above amendments and the remarks herein is requested.

Allowable Claims

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication that dependent claims 10-12, 26, 29 and 30 contain allowable subject matter. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 10. Independent claim 24 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 26. Independent claim 28 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 29. In addition, independent claim 14 has been amended to recite the limitations that were present in claim 10. Thus, each of the pending independent claims are in clear condition for allowance. Applicant therefore requests entry of the amendments and allowance of all pending claims.

Claim rejections under 35 USC §102 and §103(a)

The Examiner rejected previously pending claims 1-9, 13-23, 24, 25 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) or 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated or rendered unpatentable by U.S. Patent 6,892,728 to Helgesson et al (hereinafter Helgesson et al). Applicant disagrees with the rejections for at least the reasons set forth in the Applicant's response of May 22, 2007. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the

present rejections are believed to be moot. Applicant's amendments are made without prejudice, and Applicant reserves the right to pursue the previously presented claims in a continuing application.

Conclusion

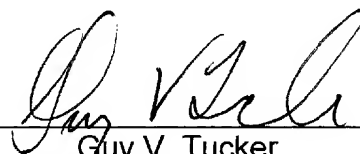
The claims are allowable for the reasons given above. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the present amendments, reconsider the present rejections and allow the presently pending claims. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

JANAH & ASSOCIATES

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